

in the memory means when said function switch is operated by a user.

--15. (New) The audio equipment according to claim 1, further comprising a front panel including said input means and said display means.

--16. (New) The audio equipment according to claim 1, wherein said input means includes a mute switch, said graphic control means being adapted to generate said graphic data depicting the list of the types of video generating devices connected to the audio equipment when said mute switch is operated by a user.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 13-16 are presented for examination, with claim 1 having been amended hereby, claims 2-4 having been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 13-16 having been added.

Although the cancellation of claims 2-4 renders their rejection moot, reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103, as being unpatentable over Shinoda in view of Ikezaki.

The instant invention relates to audio equipment for processing an audio signal. At least one type of video generating device is connected to the audio equipment, as is a video signal receiver. A user may input data including video generating device selection data as well as a name corresponding to each type of video generating device connected to the audio equipment.

Graphic data is generated which depicts a list of the

types of video generating devices connected to the audio equipment as well as the name of each of the video generating devices connected to the audio equipment.

The video generating device selection data input by the user is utilized to permit the direct selection of any one of the video generating devices.

Shinoda relates to a remote control apparatus including audio equipment and a video recorder connected to one another. A simulator is provided for producing a remote control signal so that predetermined programmed information may be verified.

Ikezaki relates to a remote control apparatus for operating one of a plurality of audio-visual devices. A plurality of icons showing functions and operating modes of the audio-visual devices are displayed and a cursor for selecting such functions and operating modes is adapted to be moved between predetermined ones of the functions and operating modes.

That is, as described at col. 7, line 46 to col. 9, line 10, the cursor may only be moved according to a predefined shift rule. This shift rule is defined graphically in Figs. 7(a) and 7(b), where the letters A-I refer to cursor positions shown in Fig. 6.

Thus, it is seen in box 100 and box 110 of Fig. 7(a), for example, that when the present position of the cursor is A, the only possible next positions are B, E, G, and I. Accordingly, when the cursor is at position A, wherein the information relating to the laser disc apparatus is shown, the user is unable to directly select position C, wherein the information relating to the digital

audio tape apparatus is shown. Instead, when such selection of the digital audio tape apparatus information is desired after viewing the laser disc apparatus information the user must first move the cursor to intermediate position B and then move the cursor on to the ultimately desired position C.

While the examiner asserts that Shinoda shows some of the elements of the instant invention he does acknowledge that Shinoda fails to disclose a video signal which displays the portion of the control panel when operating.

Thus, in an attempt to cure the acknowledged deficiency of Shinoda to disclose this aspect of the instant invention the examiner relies upon Ikezaki. The examiner alleges, in paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned Office Action, that Ikezaki shows that it is well known for audio equipment to use a video signal to display which portion of a control panel is being operated. In addition, the examiner asserts that Ikezaki shows a means for selecting from an LD, a VCR, or a DAT.

In any case, it is respectfully submitted that an examination of Ikezaki reveals that this reference fails to show or suggest the feature of the instant invention regarding the direct selection of any of the connected devices.

In fact, since Ikezaki specifically limits the user in which operation may be selected next through the imposition of its predetermined shift rule, it is respectfully submitted that this reference actually teaches away from the direct selection feature of the instant invention, as recited, for example, in claim 1.

Moreover, the instant invention provides for the input by

the user of names corresponding to the different types of devices connected to the audio equipment.

It is respectfully submitted that while the examiner asserts such a naming feature is shown by Ikezaki, a studied examination of the reference reveals that names are not assigned to the various devices.

Rather, as seen in Fig. 6, for example, the types of devices, such as LD, VTR, and DAT are displayed. There is no provision whatsoever for the input by the user of particular names corresponding to each of these devices, as taught by the instant invention and as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103, as being unpatentable over Shinoda in view of Ikezaki has been overcome.

Although the cancellation of claims 2-4 renders their rejection moot, reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103, as being unpatentable over Toshio in view of Ikezaki.

Toshio relates to a remote control arrangement capable of controlling a desired one of a plurality of devices such as an audio tuner, a tape recorder, or a television receiver. A separate receiving element is disposed adjacent each device such that any one of the devices may be controlled by aiming a remote control transmitter in the direction of the device to be operated.

While the examiner asserts that Toshio shows some of the elements of the instant invention he does acknowledge that Toshio

fails to disclose a video signal which displays the portion of the control panel when operating.

Thus, in an attempt to cure the acknowledged deficiency of Toshio to disclose this aspect of the instant invention, the examiner relies upon Ikezaki.

In any case, as discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that an examination of Ikezaki reveals that this reference fails to show or suggest the feature of the instant invention regarding the direct selection of any of the connected devices.

Moreover, as discussed above, Ikezaki fails to provide for the input by the user of names corresponding to the different types of devices connected to the audio equipment, as taught by the instant invention and as recited in the claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103, as being unpatentable over Toshio in view of Ikezaki has been overcome.

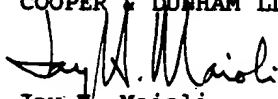
Therefore, in view of the amendments made to claim 1 hereby, new claims 13-16, and the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that audio equipment for processing an audio signal, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the claims, is neither shown nor suggested by any of the cited references, alone or in combination.

This Amendment is being submitted under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.129(a). Accordingly, entry of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

Submitted herewith is the fee of \$730.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(r). Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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JHM/MBT